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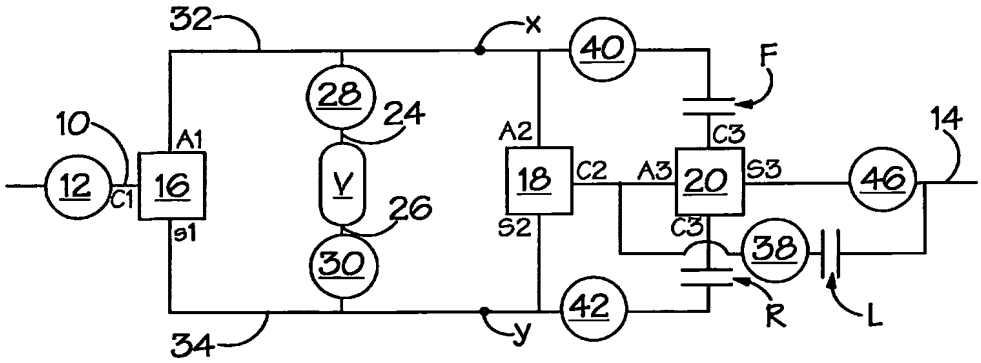
(54) Title: CONTINUOUSLY VARIABLE RATIO TRANSMISSION



(57) Abstract: A continuously variable ratio transmission (CVT) comprises a ratio varying unit ("variator"), a first epicyclic (18) having two inputs (A2, S2) connected to opposite sides of the variator (V), a second. epicyclic (16) having an input (C1) driven by a prime mover (12) and components (A1, S1) connected to opposite sides of the variator, a final drive shaft (14), a low regime clutch (L) for selectively connecting the output of the first epicyclic to the final drive shaft in low regime and a third, mixing, epicyclic (20) connected to the output (C2) of the first epicyclic (18) and connected or connectable (F, R) to the variator and being connectible with the final drive shaft in high regime by way of a high regime clutch (F). The high and low regimes are coincident at at least one variator ratio (or, more preferably, the operation ranges overlap) and the variator operates in opposite directions in the low and high regimes.

WO 2005/047736 A1